

**Amendments to the Claims:** This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A support crossbeam for an instrument panel adapted to be assembled between two side elements of a frame of an automotive vehicle next to a front part of an interior, of the type obtained by pressure die-casting of a light metal alloy and integrating several anchoring and supporting configurations, characterized in that it is formed by a single part ~~(50)~~ of an elongated configuration extending between first and second ends ~~(51, 52)~~, said single part ~~(50)~~ comprising a general profile with an open cross-section with first and second tubular portions ~~(1a, 1b)~~ with a closed cross-section, each portion in a respective one of said first and second ends ~~(51, 52)~~, and in that said general profile with an open cross-section includes at least one portion ~~(53, 54, 55)~~ comprising a pair of spaced opposite walls ~~(3, 4)~~, joined at one of their respective longitudinal edges to corresponding longitudinal edges of a connecting wall ~~(6)~~, said opposite walls ~~(3, 4)~~ defining, together with said connecting wall ~~(6)~~, a substantially depressed U-shaped cross-section profile.
2. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein one of said side walls ~~(3)~~ is an upper wall ~~(3)~~, the other one of said side walls ~~(4)~~ is a lower wall ~~(4)~~, and the connecting wall ~~(6)~~ is a bottom wall ~~(6)~~.
3. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said bottom wall ~~(6)~~ has waviness defining a longitudinal groove ~~(5)~~ the ends of which extend at least partly along the tubular portions ~~(1a, 1b)~~.
4. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said bottom wall ~~(6)~~ has waviness defining a longitudinal groove ~~(5)~~ the ends of which extend at least partly along the tubular portions ~~(1a, 1b)~~, and in that the groove ~~(5)~~ has at least one interruption to provide a planar portion ~~(26)~~ with a hole ~~(27)~~ for the passage of a fixing element ~~(28)~~.
5. (Currently Amended) crossbeam according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the general profile with an open cross-section comprises several transverse ribbings ~~(24)~~ joined at three of their edges respectively to said upper, lower and bottom walls ~~(3, 4, 6)~~ in a position substantially perpendicular thereto.

6. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the general profile with an open cross-section comprises several transverse ribbings (24) joined at three of their edges respectively to said upper, lower and bottom walls (3, 4, 6) in a position substantially perpendicular thereto, and in that at least one of said transverse ribbings (24) comprises, next to its free edge, appendages (21) delimiting a hollow (25) provided for housing a cable or wiring harness (23) between them, at least one of said appendages (21) being able to be riveted on said cable or wiring harness (23) to fasten it in said hollow (25).

7. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the general profile with an open cross-section comprises several transverse ribbings (24) joined at three of their edges respectively to said upper, lower and bottom walls (3, 4, 6) in a position substantially perpendicular thereto, in that at least one of said transverse ribbings (24) comprises, next to its free edge, appendages (21) delimiting a hollow (25) provided for housing a cable or wiring harness (23) between them, at least one of said appendages (21) being able to be riveted on said cable or wiring harness (23) to fasten it in said hollow (25), and in that said hollow (25) forms part of a notch formed in the transverse ribbing (24), said notch being provided for locating and housing said cable or wiring harness (23) at least partially.

8. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein at least one of the tubular portions (1a, 1b) comprises, in a front wall (7), appendages (21) delimiting a hollow (25) between them, provided for housing a cable or wiring harness (23), at least one of said appendages (21) being able to be riveted on said cable or wiring harness (23) to fasten it in said hollow.

9. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~wherein at least one of the tubular portions (1a, 1b) comprises, in a front wall (7), appendages (21) delimiting a hollow (25) between them, provided for housing a cable or wiring harness (23), at least one of said appendages (21) being able to be riveted on said cable or wiring harness (23) to fasten it in said hollow, and in that said hollow (25) forms part of a groove extending along at least part of said front wall (7) of at least one of the tubular portions (1a, 1b), said groove being provided for locating and housing said cable or wiring harness (23) at least partially.

10. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said general profile of an open cross-section is adapted to be demolded in a transverse direction

of the crossbeam and said first and second tubular portions ~~(1a, 1b)~~ of a closed cross-section are adapted to be demolded in the longitudinal direction of the crossbeam.

11. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ further comprising at least one through hole ~~(19)~~ obtained in the pressure die-casting operation, said through hole ~~(19)~~ being oriented, to that end, in said transverse demolding direction of the crossbeam.

12. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ further comprising at least one through hole ~~(20)~~ obtained in the pressure die-casting operation, said through hole ~~(20)~~ being oriented, to that end, in said longitudinal demolding direction of the crossbeam.

13. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one of said side walls ~~(3)~~ is an upper wall ~~(3)~~, the other one of said side walls ~~(4)~~ is a lower wall ~~(4)~~, and the connecting wall ~~(6)~~ is a bottom wall ~~(6)~~, and in that it integrates a pair of support legs ~~(10)~~ extending transversely downwards from a central region ~~(54)~~, said support legs ~~(10)~~ being connected to each other by a crossbeam ~~(11)~~ and adapted to be fixed at their ends to a lower element of said frame of the vehicle.

14. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it integrates two steering column supporting configurations ~~(8)~~ located between said central region ~~(54)~~ and the second end ~~(52)~~, formed by substantially symmetrical transverse mortises defined in said lower wall ~~(4)~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it integrates two steering column supporting configurations ~~(8)~~ located between said central region ~~(54)~~ and the second end ~~(52)~~, formed by substantially symmetrical transverse mortises defined in said lower wall ~~(4)~~, and in that it further integrates at least one sound equipment supporting configuration ~~(34)~~; at least one knee airbag supporting configuration ~~(12)~~; at least one upper instrument panel supporting configuration ~~(13)~~; at least one central instrument panel supporting configuration ~~(14)~~; at least one first fuse box supporting configuration ~~(32)~~; at least one second fuse box supporting configuration ~~(33)~~; at least one front passenger airbag supporting configuration ~~(15)~~; at least one upper terminal box supporting configuration ~~(16)~~; and at least one first and one second ventilation element supporting configurations ~~(17, 18)~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein corresponding first and second anchoring flatbars ~~(9a, 9b)~~ are formed in the first and second ends ~~(51, 52)~~, which anchoring flatbars extend transversely and are adapted to be fixed respectively to said two side elements of the mentioned frame of the automotive vehicle.

17. (Currently Amended) A crossbeam according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said anchoring flatbars ~~(9a, 9b)~~ have a profile with a substantially L-shaped cross-section reinforced with ribbings and are adapted to be demolded partially in the longitudinal direction of the crossbeam, next to the corresponding tubular portions ~~(1a, 1b)~~, and partially in the transverse direction of the crossbeam, next to the open cross-section general profile.